



1023rd meeting of the **Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**

6:00PM Saturday, June 30, 2001

Gold Mirror Italian Restaurant, 800 Taraval St. at 18th Ave. San Francisco

Annual PCNS Banquet & Bingo

Dinner at 7:00 PM
No host bar at 6:00PM
\$32.00 per person

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
Box 194271 San Francisco, CA 94119-4271
www.pcns.org

Bulletin Editor: Michael Wehner

Please join us for the annual PCNS banquet. This year we will be having dinner at the Gold Mirror Italian Restaurant, 800 Taraval St. at 18th Ave. in San Francisco. The cost will be \$32 per person. Please return the enclosed invitation by June 22 with your selection from the four choices of main entree.

As we will be having a private room, the famous PCNS Bingo game will return. As in the past, the prizes are donated by the members. Please bring some numismatic goodies! Thanks in advance to a generous donation by *Jerry Schimmel*.

1022nd meeting- May 2001

Birds on Coins – Halbert Carmichael

(Review by *Herb Miles*)

Mr. Halbert Carmichael, a bird watcher (“birder” as he puts it), gave a spirited talk spiced with slides of a portion of his collection featuring birds of the world. He began with an Athenian tetradrachm showing the city’s famous owl symbol. Halbert noted that he does not collect heraldic eagles and the like because they are unidentifiable; he prefers birds that show real animals identifiable by genus and species. Therefore, Roman coins, many portraying birds, seem not to fit into his collection since they are mostly unidentifiable, however, he is still deciding if he will add this subgroup of ancient coins to his collecting interests.

Many of Halbert’s coins show beautiful engravings of specific birds, such as the bird of paradise on a German New Guinea piece, the Quetzal on Guatemala’s coinage, the peacock on a Burmese coin, and the series of coins for which Gilroy Roberts did the engraving.

Halbert did note that many countries strike coins featuring birds just for the collector market; they are not designed to circulate as many are of precious metals, gold and silver, etc. He also stated that some countries portray birds which are not native to their own country! One example is a coin from the Bailiwick of Jersey which shows a Mauritius pink pigeon, but this particular endangered bird was brought to

the Bailiwick to allow them to reproduce in quantity and then be reintroduced to Mauritius.

Some of the birds featured are quite striking being an integral part of the coin's design, some are not very lifelike, and some are so poorly done as to be no more than an afterthought design element. Halbert showed a few slides of current technology being applied to design elements on coins, holograms, color additions, and decals on coins! What will be next? Collectors wait with bated breath.

Exhibits by Herb Miles

Larry Reppeteau brought his circulation find of a counterfeit 1935 S Lincoln Cent, a sand cast piece!

Steve Huston brought a coin accumulation/collection brought from Arkansas via Pennsylvania, mostly junk silver, but including a very nice 1854 with arrows quarter dollar.

Gordon Donnell exhibited his Fitzgerald's \$10 casino token, several elongated cents, a worn Buffalo nickel retrieved from the nickel slots, and a roll of 2000 Denver half dollars.

Phil Nordin exhibited die varieties of the Philippine Flora & Fauna series of coins where the genus was misspelled on the circulation strikes.

Mark Wm Clark brought a Philippine inaugural medal, an Eisenhower inaugural medal, a 1904 bronze St. Louis fair medal, and an error (very thin) \$100 peso coin from Mexico.

Vern Arbogast exhibited some of the newest Euro trimetal pieces and some interesting junk box finds.

Sarah Nordin brought Utah State Prison brass tokens featuring a seagull (in honor of our speaker) and containing a mysterious acronym AYOP (Adult Young Offender Population), but of course the prison does not house young offenders.

Jack Free dug a hole with his silver 1911 PPIE shovel and brought some PPIE postcards showing daytime and nighttime scenes of the fair, a 2001 proof set and an Empire Coin Company coin dealer token (from dealer Q. David Bowers).

Jerry Schimmel exhibited a grouping of Mechanics' Institute bronze, silver and gold winners' medals.

Michael Wehner brought his new acquisition, a San Francisco token featuring Sharon's Quarters in Golden Gate Park, the area where a children's park and merry-go-round are located. Michael stated that his research noted that this is the oldest public playground in the United States.

Seagulls and Utah Prison Tokens, *Sarah Nordin*



Utah Prison token *Zara* UT11-13

In the mid-1980's, the Utah Department of Corrections produced a series of tokens for use by inmates in the state prison system. Prison tokens don't usually carry dates or designs, but the Utah series is an exception to both rules. The 23mm and 25mm brass pieces were dated 1985 and 1988, and at least one obverse design of 1985 carries a stylized image of a seagull. They are listed in *Zara's* catalog on prison tokens as UT-11 through UT-13.

The California Gull is the state bird of Utah. The story goes back to 1847, when the first Mormon settlers in the area of modern-day Salt Lake City were almost driven to starvation by a three-inch-long species of shieldback katydid, later named

the Mormon Cricket, which ravaged their fields. The pioneers were saved by large flocks of hungry California Seagulls, which flew in from Salt Lake and consumed the insects. Latter Day Saints refer to the incident as the “Miracle of the Gulls”, and the California Seagull has enjoyed a place of honor ever since.

Prisoners may not exactly be “free as a bird”, but the seagull image on the Utah 1985 token serves as a reminder of the state’s history. There is no other recorded use of a bird from any state on a prison token.

Die Varieties of the Philippines Monkey-Eating Eagle, *Phil Nordin*

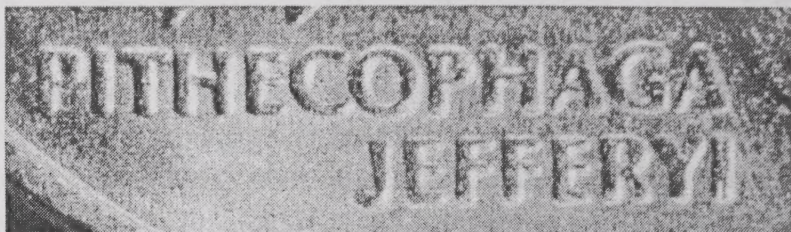


In 1983, the Central Bank of the Philippines replaced the reverse designs of its minor coinage with the so-called “Flora and Fauna” series, to highlight the archipelago’s biodiversity. For the copper-nickel 50-sentimo, KM-242.1, a dramatic image of the endangered Monkey-Eating Eagle was chosen. The coin measures 25mm in diameter. Mintage of the 1983 issue was 27,644,000 pieces.

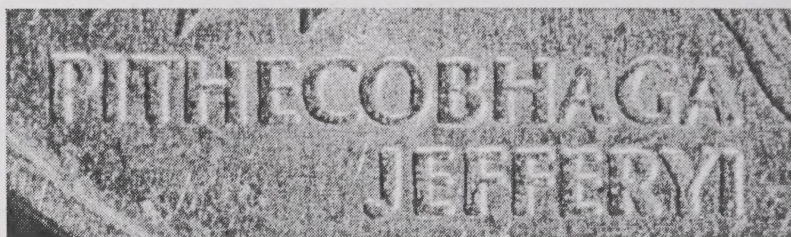
The eagle is endemic to the southern Philippine island of Palawan, where its local name is *tabon*. The scientific name of the eagle is *Pithecophaga jefferyi*, the first word referring to the genus, or group of related eagles, and the second word referring to the species, the specific kind of eagle.

Each of the coins in the Flora and Fauna series carries the scientific name of the plant or animal represented. In the

case of the 50-sentimo, a misspelling of the genus created a variety, KM-242.2, spelled *Pithecobhaga*. The variety seems confined to circulation strikes only.



Correct spelling of the genus (*Pithecophaga*)



Incorrect spelling of the genus (*Pithecobhaga*)

The variety appears to have been created early in the year. A Midwest coin dealer obtained a quantity of the Flora and Fauna coins directly from the Central Bank. Largely because of his inventory, uncirculated examples of the misspelled 50-sentimo variety are readily available in the market today. By contrast, specimens in circulation were uncommon in the Philippines. I was in the Olongapo area at the time, and I checked 100 coins from the local bank. I found only two of the misspelled variety, and I saw only one more for the time I was there. My guess is that the Central Bank located the misspelled hub which created the dies, and removed it from use.

Brazilian Pavilion GGIE medal, *Michael Wehner*



Obverse: BRAZILIAN PAVILION / GOLDEN GATE
INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION / 1939 / (Small signature
SHREVE & CO S.F.) / (Pavilion building)
Reverse: ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRASIL / (Brazilian Coat
of Arms) 63mm diameter, brass

This large and seldomly seen brass medal commemorates the Brazilian Pavilion at the 1939 Golden Gate International Exhibition. Presented to promote Brazil and its products, the pavilion featured a large café in its south wing where fair goers sipped Brazilian coffee and mate, a South American herbal tea. Pictured on the medal is the main entrance showing a large floral mural on the west side of the tower. Murals also adorned the eastern side of the tower. Decorated with Bird of Paradise, tree-ferns, philodendrons, and rubber and banana trees, the interior was donated to the East Bay Regional Park District and rebuilt after the fair closed with a new exterior as the “Brazilian Room” in Tilden Park in Berkeley. Famous for its exotic Brazilian hardwood paneling, including the rare species Jacaranda and Sucupira, the Brazilian room remains a popular place for weddings and parties.

The medal was manufactured by the San Francisco jeweler Shreve & Co. The original finish of the piece is unclear. The specimen at hand is oxidized. The only other piece known to the author (via an internet photo) appeared to be brilliant in finish.

Raffle

Four prizes went to:

1. Hawaiian Coins & Tokens, by Bressett & Gould; to *Jack Free*.
2. Latin American Tokens, by Rulau; to *Gordon Donnell*.
3. A Silver Liberian 1974 \$5.00, (one of the largest silver coins ever minted by the US); to *Larry Reppeteau*.
4. Two \$100 Skagway, Alaska Scrip Notes; to *Paul Holtzman*.

Late News

Ruth Philips, current CSNA president and former PCNS president will be joining us at the banquet along with Theresa Lund, editor of CalCoin News. Be sure to come and thank Ruth for her support of PCNS and the CSNA educational symposium.

Please join us for the annual banquet of the

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society

Saturday June 30, 2001

Gold Mirror Restaurant

800 Taraval St. (at 18th) San Francisco

Dinner at 7:00 PM

No host bar at 6:00PM

\$32.00 per person

-----cut here and return the bottom portion-----

Name of Party: _____

Number in Party: _____

Please select entrées:

_____ veal _____ prime rib _____ baked chicken _____ fish of the day



RSVP by June 22, 2001 to PCNS PO Box 194271 San Francisco, CA 94119-4271

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society—1024th Meeting & Banquet

President Michael Wehner presided over the 1024th PCNS Meeting and Banquet that was held on June 30, 2001 at the Gold Mirror Italian Restaurant, 800 Taraval Street in balmy San Francisco, California.

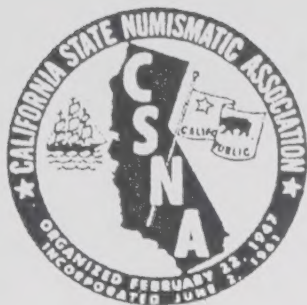
Many members, spouses and guests arrived early to partake of conversation and the generous libations poured at the downstairs bar. Since there was no official meeting, no new or leftover business was conducted, all raffle prizes were donated to the Bingo game, and our speaker for the evening seemed to be the conversational buzz from satisfied diners.

President Wehner noted the past presidents in attendance, Dr. Paul Holtzman, Frank Strazzarino, Stephen M. Huston, Gordon Donnell, Larry Reppeteau, Lori Reppeteau, Rick Webster, Ruth Phillips, O. L. Wallis and Herb Miles. If I have neglected to mention someone, it is entirely the substitute Editor's responsibility (a *senior moment* perhaps). Also attending was Jerry Schimmel, recognized as our most recent Fellow of the Society. Other honored members in attendance were Phil and Sarah Nordin, Don Barsi, Jack Free, Mark Wm. Clark, Ken Takahashi, and guests Theresa Lund and spouses and family members too numerous to mention. Naturally, we were all glad to see Peter Barchuk and family who bring a lot of excitement and joy to the annual Bingo proceedings.

After dining on a fine meal of Prime Rib, or Chicken or Veal, members and guests were treated to PCNS Bingo, which is unlike any other Bingo game in the world. There are winners, and there are winners, you just have to be there to understand. Needless to say, all went home with some prize and many were multiple winners! We wish to thank the Bingomeisters, Evan Huston, Stephen M Huston, and especially Rick Webster for conducting such an enjoyable event.

Upcoming for our July meeting, we will welcome Ken Barr, well known dealer in syngraphic material. Ken will speak on Military Payment Certificates, one of his special areas of expertise. Ken has bought and sold many of the rarer pieces in this area of collecting and he exhibited an almost complete set several years ago at one of our meetings. Come join us for an enlightening evening on July 25, 2001 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2800 Taraval Street in San Francisco, CA.

Herbert Miles
PCNS Secretary



C.S.N.A. COMMUNIQUE

C.S.N.A.'S 109TH SEMI-ANNUAL CONVENTION
AND
GOLDEN STATE COIN SHOW

AUGUST 25TH AND 26TH, 2001

ARCADIA MASONIC TEMPLE
50 WEST DUARTE ROAD, ARCADIA, CA

The California State Numismatic Association will hold its Summer Convention, in conjunction with the Numismatic Association of Southern California, at the Arcadia Masonic Temple on August 25 and 26, the same place it was held last year. Show hours are from 10 AM to 6 PM on Saturday and from 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday and there is a \$2 admission charge. There is plenty of free parking available at the sight. Kay Lenker is serving as General Chairman and can be reached at P. O. Box 6909, San Diego, CA 92106 or by phone at 619-222-8739.

The Bourse Room will be ready for dealer set-up on Friday, the 24th after 4 PM. Hospitality will be provided by the convention committee for those dealers who arrive on Friday. Gary Beedon, C. S. N. A.'s Bourse Coordinator, is in charge of selling the 50 bourse tables. Those dealers wishing tables for the show should contact him at P. O. Box 23335, Huntington Beach, CA 93647 or by phone at 714-963-6138 for table availability.

Anyone wishing to place an exhibit in the show should contact Exhibit Chairman Don Foster at 422 Drake Road, Arcadia, CA 91006 or by phone at 626-447-9483 for exhibit applications.

The C. S. N. A. Open Board Meeting will held at 8:30 AM on Saturday morning. and the N. A. S. C. Open Board Meeting will be held at 9:30 AM on Sunday morning. The bourse and exhibit areas will be open to the public at 10 AM both days.

The C.S.N.A. Educational Forum will be held at 1 PM on Saturday. The speaker will be Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald, Director of Education and past president of the C.S.N.A. He will present a slide program and discussion entitled "The Golden Age of United States Coinage."

When Theodore Roosevelt was thrust into the presidency upon the assassination of President McKinley, no one could have dreamed the impact his presidency would have on the circulating coinage of the nation. He was unhappy with the country's coin designs and was determined to bring about changes at the mint. Roosevelt was very pleased with the inaugural medal Saint-Gaudens was commissioned to create of him and he believed he had found in him the person able to bring about the changes in the coinage that he wanted.

Many people believe the newly designed gold coins created by Augustus Saint-Gaudens and the Boston sculptor, Bela Lyon Pratt, to be the most beautiful coins in our history. Come to the forum and hear Dr. Fitzgerald speak on this fascinating topic.

The C.S.N.A. 109th Convention medal will commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War. Designed by Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald, the medal bears a facing portrait of President Eisenhower in the center surrounded by the obverse and reverse designs of two commemorative silver dollars, with the inscription "LEST WE FORGET." A set of three medals, 1 silver, 1 bronze and 1 oxidized bronze, can be ordered from Joyce Kuntz, Medals Coordinator, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640 for \$20.00 plus \$1.01 for postage.

The California Exonumist Society will meet at 2:30 PM on Saturday and President Mike Stanley has lined up an interesting speaker in the form of Gordon Donnell from Berkeley, who will speak on "The History of Wooden Money." Gordon is a former C.S.N.A. Director and very active in the San Francisco Bay Area coin clubs and in ANA, too. He has been collecting wooden money for a long time and is very knowledgeable on the subject of wooden money. This should be a great talk, one you won't want to miss.

The C.S.N.A. Awards Banquet will be held Saturday evening at 7:00 PM at Coco's Restaurant, 1150 Colorado Blvd., Arcadia. The cost is \$26 per person and advance reservations can be made by contacting the Banquet Chairman, Joyce Kuntz. It will be buffet style with plenty of choices to choose from.

N.A.S.C. will conduct a gold coin raffle so be sure to buy tickets when you attend the show. You need not be present to win. The raffle will be held 3:30 PM on Sunday afternoon.

There are many hotels in the Arcadia area, so you are free to choose one that pleases you. No official convention functions will be held in any hotel, only in the Arcadia Masonic Temple. Plan to attend and have a good time. Dealers will be on hand to fill your every need.

PLAN TO COME TO ARCADIA AND JOIN THE FUN!